

CAMDEN COMPREHENSIVE PLAN COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
October 25, 2012

PRESENT: Chair Lowrie Sargent; Members: Richard Householder and Jan MacKinnon; Alternate Member Sid Lindsley; Don White, Select Board Liaison to the Comprehensive Plan Committee; Jean Freedman-White, Coordinator and Liaison to the Chapter Working Groups; and CEO Steve Wilson
ABSENT: Members Chris MacLean and Kerry Sabanty

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm.

1. MINUTES

October 4, 2012:

Page 2 Line 5: The word “brining” was changed to the word “bringing”.

MOTION by Mr. Householder seconded by Ms. MacKinnon that the Minutes of the Camden Comprehensive Plan Committee of October 4, 2012, be approved as amended.

VOTE: 3-0-1 with Mr. Householder abstaining due to his absence

2. CHAPTER ASSIGNMENTS, SCHEDULE of WORK, ETC:

In his capacity as Acting Chair at the previous meeting, Mr. Householder had asked members to review each chapter of the Plan with the goal of setting priorities for assigning chapters to working groups for redrafting. In anticipation of this discussion Mr. Householder suggested going through the list chapter-by-chapter and assigning them into three categories to be sent out to the working groups: Group A would be done first, B second and Group C would be the chapters that should be done at the very end because it is most important that this data is current. These are the chapters that will, most probably, require a budget for outside help, and although the money may not be needed this budget year, the Committee wanted to try to make a request for that funding by this February. The funds can always be held over if they are not used, but the money would be there if they need to access funds.

Working Schedule for Chapters:

Determining that the time left until the draft plan must be completed at 30 months, Mr. Householder suggested working on the A Group of chapters for the first ten months, the B group the next 10 months and the C group the last. The Com Plan Committee would designate a leader for each Chapter Working Group, and give the group their initial directions and layout a time-frame to completion.

Mr. Sargent had prepared a worksheet to use in this discussion that grouped chapters by the level of involvement that would be required of Town Staff and groups and committees, and when outside help would be required. Using this ranking, the Committee went through the list of chapters and assigned them to the A, the B or the C time frame.

The A chapters that will be done first are numbers 1, 5, 6 and 14 (History, Natural Resources, Natural Opportunities and Constraints, and Historic Resources).

The B chapters are 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 15 and 20 (Sewer & Water Utilities, Solid Waste, Transportation, Land Use Patterns, Housing, The Harbor, Public Facilities and Planning).

The C chapters are all the rest – 2, 3, 4, 13, 16, 18, 19, 21, 22, and 23 (Population, Economy, Downtown, Recreation & Open Space, Fiscal Capacity, Future Land Use Plan, Land Use Regulation, Capital Improvements, Regional Cooperation and Other Vehicles for Implementation).

→ The Recording Secretary will revise the Spreadsheets to sort the Chapters by categories A, B and C

Projections:

One of the things the Committee must decide in order to give groups direction is what time frame for projections they want the groups to use in their work. If they use a ten-year time frame so the projections can offer some guidance in planning, the data may be useful. In addition, that date needs to be counted from the date of completion of the Plan, not the date the actual drafting is done. That means that projections should be made, where required, out to 2025.

Spreadsheets:

Chapter 22, Regional Cooperation: The Committee will be soliciting opinions from people from other towns, and one of the issues will be the Regional 911, and the Knox County Dispatch. For that reason the Police Chief and the Fire Chief should be added to the Town Staff involved in these discussions. The two school units – RSU 28 and the 5-Town CSD should also be added to the Local Organizations for these discussions.

Chapter Summaries for the Select Board to use for newspaper notices:

The Committee needs to provide language to the Select Board that summarizes each chapter.

→ Members were assigned one Chapter each from the A group to summarize for the above purpose. Those summaries and the categorized chapter scheme will be taken to the Select Board for their review, and so they can begin to solicit citizen participation and assign Committees their work.

Chapter 1, History: Mr. Lindsley; Chapter 5, Natural Resources: Jan MacKinnon; Chapter 6, Natural Opportunities and Constraints: Lowrie Sargent; and Chapter 14, Historic Resources: Richard Householder

Ms. Freedman-White suggested the Committee think about the format for the newspaper – should they use an ad or have the press do a story instead; the Committee liked the idea of a news story. When interested parties are contacted they should be informed of the fact that this is a short-term, but perhaps time consuming, commitment with specific deadline. If a volunteer plans on being gone for most, or even some of the winter, they should not be assigned to this round of work.

There being no further business before the Committee, they adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanne Hollingsworth, Recording Secretary